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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SUBCOMMITTEES:

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES CHAIRMAN

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES.

March 30, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chair House Appropriations Committee H-307, The Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee 1036 Longworth House Office Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$4 million for the Stanley Workforce Housing Economic Development Initiative project in the FY24 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill.

The project sponsor for this project is the City of Stanley, located at 510 Eva Falls Avenue, Stanley, ID 83278. This funding would be used to construct affordable housing for up to 80 employees and their families. These are local area business employees and providers of essential services within the City of Stanley and surrounding community, including law enforcement, emergency medical services, search and rescue, structural fire, and health care. The project will construct approximately 22,000 square feet of housing for temporary and permanent employees in approximately seven buildings. In addition to the housing itself, the project will require housing infrastructure, including grading, a public water system, sewer and electrical power connections, and road access.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars because Stanley has long had a workforce housing shortage which continues to intensify. Less than 3% of the land in Custer County is privately owned. The 308 acres of private land within the City of Stanley are surrounded by National Forest System land that is unavailable for private development. This severely reduces the economic feasibility of utilizing much of the privately-owned City land for workforce housing. Real estate owners believe that the land has a higher economic use. Constructing housing for up to 80 workers, including family members, on the four acres of City-owned land will provide significant relief to the severe housing shortage.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2) of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Mike Simpson March 30, 2023